

# STATE ACTION ON BUSINESS ENABLING REFORMS (SABER) PROGRAM

## PROGRESS REPORT

### NASARAWA STATE 2023 BUSINESS ENABLING REFORMS ACTION PLAN (BERAP)

S/N	Business Enabling Reform Areas	Reform Objectives	Action Steps	Description and Key Targets	Responsible MDA	Contributing MDAs	Planned Start Date	Planned End Date	Status	Description of Status	Next Steps
1	Development of Land Acquisition Framework	This initiative will ensure that the state has a standard procedure to be followed for land acquisition for mass production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Critical engagement with stakeholders from business-related MDAs &amp; local communities across the state</li> <li>ii. Commissioning of the Development of the framework</li> <li>iii. Adoption of the framework the state</li> </ul>	This will provide investors seeking to acquire lands in the state for mass production with specific steps and timelines involved in land acquisition process for mass production.	Ministry of Lands & Urban Devt.	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency and Ministry of Agriculture & Water Resources	02-Feb-23	18-May-23	Completed <b>Impact:</b> This reform has further improved land administration & enforcement of property rights in the State	Nasarawa State Govt. Has developed a framework for land acquisition in the State. The framework was developed in consultation with the private sector.	Not Applicable
2	Development of Framework For Responsible & Inclusive Land-Intensive Agriculture (FRILIA)	This seeks to clearly identify the role of land devt. in investment promotion & the associated risks to ensure that land acquisition & resettlement for large-scale agribusiness investments are undertaken in line with established international good practices & guaranteed shared benefits between private investors & surrounding communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Study tour to two (2) States to understudy how they adopted FRILIA</li> <li>ii. Engagement with stakeholders across all sectors for their input in the development of an Executive Order adopting FRILIA</li> <li>iii. Signing of the Executive Order adopting FRILIA</li> </ul>	This will provide an established standard for land acquisition for agro-business investments & ensuring that members of the local community where the agricultural investment project is to be situated derive maximum benefit from the investments	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	Ministry of Agriculture & Water Resources; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Lands & Urban Devt. & Nasarawa Geographic Information Service	27 -Jan-2023	23-Dec-2023	Completed <b>Impact:</b> The initiative is expected to improve access to & sustainability of large-scale investments in Nasawara State	The Governor of Nasarawa State has issued an Executive Order on FRILIA in the State. The State has also established FRILIA Steering and Technical Committees.	Adherence to the detailed provisions of the framework in land acquisition & resettlement for investment

3	Conduct of Street naming & numbering in three Urban Centres (Lafia, Akwanga & Keffi)	This initiative will ensure easy accessibility & traceability of any location in the three urban centres	Review the current data on streets named & houses numbered ii. Identify areas where streets are not named & houses not numbered. iii. Request for sponsorship of street naming iv. Provide names for every street and number every house v. Develop a data bank for all streets & houses captured	This is designed to ensure that streets are adequately named & houses numbered for easy identification by visitors, business owners & the general public. This will also improve transportation business in the three urban centers	Nasarawa State Urban Devt. Board	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency; Nasarawa Geographic Information Service; Ministry of Works, Housing & Transport; Ministry of Trade, Industry & Investment; Ministry for LG, Community Devt. & Chieftaincy Affairs; Ministry of Lands & Urban Devt.	11- Feb-2023	21-Dec-23	Ongoing <b>Impact:</b> The initiative will ensure easy accessibility & traceability of any location in the three urban centres	All major streets in the 3 Local Government Areas have already been named. This reform is uncompleted due to the non approval of funds	A licensed software is required to be purchased
4	Development of PPP Fiscal Commitment & Contingent Liability (FCCL) Management Framework & Web-based disclosure portal/website to publish pipeline PPP projects.	This seeks to ensure that the state does not sign any PPP agreement that can infringe on the State's Future Resources	Review the State PPP framework to identify applicable legislation for sensitizing the public & stakeholders on State's PPP portfolio & PPP projects ii. Establish the information disclosure protocol iii. Conduct necessary reviews of each of the project contract document & progress reports to establish the status of each of the project iv. Technical Design of the PPP disclosure web portal. v. Sensitize & train PPP secretariat & necessary stakeholders on the use of the portal vi. Populate necessary information on projects at the financial	The Fiscal Commitment & Contingent Liability (FCCL) Management Framework will help to ensure that the state does not embark on PPP projects that are capable of affecting future resources of the State. While the Web-based disclosure portal/website is expected to enhance transparency in the delivery of proposed and ongoing PPP projects in the State	PPP & Infrastructure Finance Department (Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency)	Ministry of Justice & Bureau for Public Procurement	09-Feb-23	18-Oct-23	Ongoing <b>Impact:</b> The reform is expected to boost private sector participation in infrastructure development and public services in the State	A web-based disclosure portal/website to publish pipeline PPP projects has been developed	Completion of work on the development of PPP Fiscal Commitment & Contingent Liability (FCCL) Management Framework

			close and commercial PPP projects & contract information vii. Testing and Final deployment of the PPP disclosure portal								
5	Review of Law establishing Nasarawa State Urban Development Board	This seeks to ensure that the aggregate fees charged for broadband deployment on a per linear meter basis at a maximum of not more than NGN145 per meter is clearly stated.	Townhall meeting with stakeholders in urban development and members of Nasarawa State House of Assembly on the need to review the law ii. Collation/harmonization of concerns from stakeholders on the review of NUDB Law iii. Initiation of amendment of the Nasarawa State Urban Development Board Law at the Nasarawa State House of Assembly iv. Radio & television adverts on the passage of the amended law	This will ensure that the aggregate fees charged for broadband deployment on a per linear meter basis (N145) are clearly captured for investors in the telecommunication industry & the general public to be aware of	Nasarawa State Urban Devt. Board	Ministry of Lands & Urban Development; Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency; Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Works, Transport & Housing	11- Feb-2023	5 -Oct -2023	Completed <b>Impact</b> This will open up the telecommunications sector of the State and further attract investors to the sector. This has also attracted a 10km broadband infrastructure installed at the College of Education Akwanga by the National Communication Commission	A regulation on Right of way has been issued by the Nasarawa State Urban Development Board which provides for the requirements for Fibre optic infrastructure in the state. This also provides that no charges are made on operators of fiber optic infrastructure in the state	Adherence to the Right of Way Regulation
6	Review of the Harmonization Law & enlightenment on the use of Central Billing System (CBS) for all payments	This initiative will ensure that submissions are made to capture current rates and charges by business-related MDAs for services	townhall meeting with stakeholders from business-related MDAs & Nasarawa State House of Assembly on the need to review the harmonization law; Collation/harmonization of concerns from business-related MDAs on specific areas requiring review	This is designed to ensure that all taxes and fees charged by business-related MDAs are clearly stated and justified for tax payers, business owners & the general public to be adequately aware of. This will also help to ensure that all taxes and fees payable to the state are paid through the	Nasarawa State Internal Revenue Service	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency, Ministry of Justice and all business-related MDAs	26 -Jan-2023	16-Dec-23	Completed <b>Impact:</b> The initiative has enhanced transparency & accountability in tax administration	Review of harmonisation law has been completed with all taxes applicable in the State captured for transparency. This has helped taxpayers to have access to all Category of taxes payable to the state	Strict adherence to the Tax Harmonization

			<p>ii. Initiation of amendment of the State's Harmonization Law at the Nasarawa State House of Assembly Mobilization of various MDAs to make submissions at public hearings for the amendment of the Harmonization Law</p> <p>iv. Radio &amp; television adverts on the use the Central Billing System</p> <p>v. Townhall with relevant stakeholders from business-related MDAs on strict compliance to the use of CBS for all payments to the state</p>	CBS only to enhance transparency & accountability.							
7	Harmonization of Demand Notice for the payment of tax	This initiative will ensure that a taxpayer is issued only a single demand notice that comprises of all the state & local govt. taxes required to be paid by businesses	<p>Engage extensively with Chief Executives from business-related MDAs &amp; Chairmen of the 13 Local Govts. &amp; 18 Overseers of Development Areas to key into the harmonization of Demand Notice to taxpayers</p> <p>ii. Development of format of a single Demand Notice to be issued to taxpayers</p> <p>iii. Upgrading of the Central Billing System platform to pay each MDA or tier of govt. its due taxes paid through the CBS</p>	This is designed to achieve the issuance of consolidated demand notices in at least 45% of tax demand notices issued to tax payers, business owners & the general public	Nasarawa State Internal Revenue Service	Ministry for Local Govt., Comm. Devt. & Chieftaincy Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	11-Feb-23	19-Dec-23	Completed A single consolidated tax demand notice is issued to tax payers, business owners & the general public which has greatly improved the state's internally generated revenue of the state	The state's tax demand notice has been harmonised; containing all applicable taxes and levies a single document. This has helped to greatly address the challenges of double taxation & issuance of multiple demand notices that cannot be verified.	Adherence to the issuance of a single tax demand notice by the Nasarawa State Internal Revenue Service

8	Development & deployment of portals for business-related MDAs	This initiative will ensure that business-related MDAs have portals that bear details of their services and can be used for transactions	i. Development of portals for the business-related MDAs (13) in the state for information and transactions ii. Training of focal persons to manage the platform from each business-related MDA iii. Purchase of equipment such as computers, routers, tabs, etc for the management of the platforms in each MDA	This will ensure that all business-related MDAs in the state have portals for information dissemination & other transactions that will promote transparency	Nasarawa State Information Technology Development & Economic Agency	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	28-Feb-23	24 – Nov 2023	Completed <b>Impact</b> Increased access to information about available services and products in the state as well as seamless registration of business premisses and acquisition of permits and approval	Web portals for business related MDAS have been developed to ensure that the public have seamless access to information and services provided. It is providing seamless access to services and products in the state	Maintenance of portals for continuous use
9	Conduct of taxpayer perception & ease of doing business surveys	appreciate the extent of the impact of reforms implemented & identify areas requiring improvement	Identify specific areas where the survey will be carried out ii. Sensitize the public on the survey to be carried out and its significance to improving the business environment iii. Engage consultants to carry out the survey	This will provide baseline data for business reforms within the State that will be useful to investors, business owners, government & the general public	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	Nasarawa State Internal Revenue Service	20-Mar-23	26-Oct-23	Ongoing <b>Impact</b> The reform has increased the understanding of business owners on tax administration.	This Survey will provide baseline data for business reforms within the State that will be useful to investors, business owners, government & the general public to make informed decisions	Non release of funds is responsible for the non completion of the reform.
10	Periodic ease for doing business reporting to all stakeholders through all available Channels	This will ensure that stakeholders & citizens are abreast with reforms implemented by the state and to receive feedback on the concern	Radio & television adverts on reforms implemented ii. Stakeholders' engagement with all business-related MDAs and the business community in the state iii. Press releases Production and airing of jingles on radio & television on reforms implemented	This will provide business owners & members of the public with adequate information on reforms implemented to improve the business climate in the state that	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	Business-related MDAs	21 - March - 2023	16 - Dec – 2023	Completed <b>Impact</b> This Initiative has improved service delivery in business related MDAs because officials are now more aware of the onus to ensure that the general public access services and products in the state in a seamless mas	Ease of doing business reporting is Keeping Stakeholders a-braced with the business enabling reforms being implemented in the State & its impact on the business climate. This has helped major stakeholders to own the	Not Applicable

									manner. The information on reforms implemented has also improved perception of investors, business owners, government officials & the general public	implementation of business enabling reforms and ensure that reforms are seamlessly implemented.	
11	Nasarawa Governance Result and Efficiency Mechanism (NGREM)	This reform area will optimize service delivery, boost citizen engagement & address critical issues that undermine government effectiveness for improved efficiency in the discharge of government responsibility	Development of NGREM platform-connecting all the business-related MDAs in the state ii. Purchase of equipment such as computers, routers, tabs, etc to receive and respond to information/ requests efficiently. iii. Training of Reform Champions from business-related MDAs on how to deploy the platform	This will ensure efficiency & transparency in the delivery of public service & ensure inter-agency collaboration in the state in the interest of investors, business owners & the general public	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	Bureau for Information & Comm. Technology & business-related MDAs	19-Feb-23	05-Dec-23	Ongoing <b>Impact</b> This Once Completed will ensure efficiency & transparency in the delivery of public service & ensure inter-agency collaboration in the state in the interest of investors, business owners & the general public	The NGREM portal has been developed	Approval and release of funds for the purchase of equipment such as computers, routers, tabs, etc to receive and respond to information/requests, as well as training of Reform Champions from business-related MDAs on how to deploy the platform
12	Development of Water Policy	To ensure the optimization of water resources in the state	Study tour to two (2) States to understudy the state's water policy ii. Development of the state's water policy iii. Hosting of public hearings in each of the three (3) Senatorial Districts of the state for inputs on the state's water policy iv. Sensitization of stakeholders about the significance and	This will ensure that the state has a policy for the optimization of water resources in the interest of investors & business owners, households & the general public	This will ensure that the state has a policy for the optimization of water resources in the interest of investors & business owners, households & the general public	Nasarawa State Water Board & Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	10-Feb-23	17-Aug-23	Completed <b>Impact</b> These Initiative has give the Water Board a sense of direction and empowers it to operate optimally in providing access to portable water.	Nasarawa State Government has developed a water policy to ensure the optimization of water resources in the state. The Policy was developed in consultation with the Public, private sector and Business Owners.	strict compliance with the policy for optimization of water resources in the state resources in the interest of investors & business owners, households & the general public

			relevance of the water policy v. Radio & television adverts to publicize the water policy								
13	Small Claims court	To provide claimants with an accessible, inexpensive & speedy resolution platform for simple & liquidated debt recovery disputes.	Radio & television adverts on the creation of Small Claims Court in the state ii. Set up of Secretariat & purchase of equipment such as computers, printers, scanners, tabs, routers, etc for the efficient operation of the Secretariat iii. Training of 13 Magistrates & 20 Lawyers from both official & private Bar to acquaint them with the globally accepted method of reporting cases and judgments of the Small Claims Court iv. Training of 13 Registrars & 26 Bailiffs on reporting templates & service of Processes	This is to reduce the time for adjudication of commercial disputes for investors & business owners	Judicial Service Commission	Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency and Ministry of Justice	16-Mar-23	10-Oct-23	Completed <b>Impact</b> This initiative helped to resolve debt recovery disputes and continuous to provide a platform for owners of small businesses to seek justice without delay. inexpensive and speedy resolution platform for simple & liquidated debt recovery disputes.	Small Claims Courts have been established across the 13 Local Government Areas of the state; providing access to inexpensive & speedy solution platforms for small businesses. This has helped to resolve debt recovery disputes and continuous to provide a platform for owners of small businesses to seek justice without delay.	The Judicial Service Commission to supervise, keep records of proceedings & judgments, and publish same on a monthly basis
14	Nasarawa Business Environment Townhall (NASBET)	To communicate the implementation of policies and reforms & feedback from Micro, 6 Small, Medium Enterprises in the State	Identify the reforms implemented to be communicated ii. Make radio & television adverts inviting business owners to the townhall Send invitation letters to specific business owners identified across the state		Nasarawa Investment & Devt. Agency	Ministry of Trade, Industry & Investment & all business-related MDAs	15-Mar-23	08-Dec-23	Completed <b>Impact</b> Increased awareness about business enabling reforms implemented in the state with an increased opportunity to receive feedback on policies &	Nasarawa Business Environment Townhall (NASBET) seeks to communicate reforms implemented and received feedback on the impacts of the reforms.	Not applicable

iv. Host the townhall with Chief Executives from each business-related MDAs in each of the three (3) Senatorial Districts of the state to communicate reforms implemented and received feedback on the impacts of the reforms.

reforms Implemented for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in the State